



Colonel Michael A. Bills

Joint Task Force North

Commander

Colonel Michael A. Bills, after completing three years of service as an enlisted Soldier, graduated from George Mason University, at Fairfax, Virginia, and was commissioned through Reserve Officers' Training Corps in 1984. Throughout his career, he has served in a variety of command, leadership, and staff assignments in armor and cavalry units.

His early assignments include duty as a tank and scout platoon leader, Headquarters and Headquarters Company Executive Officer, and Battalion Maintenance Officer, in 2nd Battalion, 81st Armor, 1st Armored Division, at Erlangen, Germany. After attending the Armor Advanced Course, he served as the Squadron Personnel Officer, B Troop Commander, and Headquarters and Headquarters Troop Commander, in the 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, at Fort Riley, Kansas; he deployed B Troop to Operation Desert Shield/Storm.

Following three years as an Armor Assignment Officer at the U.S. Army's Personnel Command in Alexandria, Virginia, he attended the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He then served as the Operations Officer and Executive Officer, 2nd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, at Fort Carson, Colorado.

Colonel Bills was then assigned as the Department of the Army Black Book Manager, Office of the Chief of Staff, Army, at the Pentagon. He then took command of the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, at Bidingen, Germany. Following command, he was assigned to Hohenfels, Germany as the Senior Armor/Cavalry Trainer --- "Grizzly 07." He was then selected by the V Corps Commander to lead the V Corps Assault Command Post during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003.

Following graduation from the Army War College, his assignments included standing up the Wounded Warrior Program and serving as Chief, Base Realignment and Closure at the U.S. Army Human Resources Command.

Colonel Bills commanded the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment from 29 June 2006 to 3 April 2009; including a 15 month Operation Iraqi Freedom rotation in Mosul, Iraq. Following command, he served on the Guantanamo Task Force at the Department of Justice. In his next assignment, he served as the Director, Joint Advance Warfighting Program-APO, Institute for Defense Analysis, in Alexandria, Virginia.

His awards and decorations include: Silver Star, two Legion of Merits, three Bronze Stars, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, six Army Meritorious Service Medals, four Army Commendation Medals, three Army Achievement Medals, Army Good Conduct Medal, two National Defense Service Medals, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, and Valorous Unit Award, and Army Staff Badge.

Colonel Bills assumed command of Joint Task Force North on 9 June 2010.